IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-13 (Canceled).

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): A gear tooth, comprising:

a ~~concave~~ root including two concave root sectors, with each of the concave root sectors being joined at [[its]] an origin to a concave root sector of a neighboring tooth[[,]]; and [[with]]

a top including a first side and a second side, with each of the sides of the top joined to a respective one of the concave [[the]] root sectors by a first transition point,

wherein each of the sides of the top ~~of the tooth~~ includes two convex sectors joined by a second transition point defining a discontinuity in curvature of the tooth profile.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A gear tooth according to claim 14, wherein the second transition point defines a bottom of a notch made in the tooth profile ~~of the tooth~~.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): A gear tooth according to claim 14, wherein the convex sector following the first transition point has a spherical involute profile.

Claim 17 (Previously Presented): A gear tooth according to claim 14, wherein the convex sector following the second transition point has a spherical involute profile.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): A gear tooth according to claim 14, wherein the top of the tooth ~~has~~ includes a rounded end sector[[,]] joined to each of the ~~second~~ convex ~~sector~~ sectors following the second transition point by a transition sector.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): An external gear pump, comprising:

at least one pair of mutually meshed toothed ~~pinions~~ gears,

wherein each tooth of [[which]] the gears is ~~in accordance with claim 14~~ comprised of a root including two concave root sectors, with each of the concave root sectors being joined at an origin to a concave root sector of a neighboring tooth; and

a top including a first side and a second side, with each of the sides of the top joined to a respective one of the concave root sectors by a first transition point,

wherein each of the sides of the top includes two convex sectors joined by a second transition point defining a discontinuity in curvature of the tooth profile.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim [[14]] 19, wherein [[the]] two of the toothed gears are identical.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein the first transition point on one side of one tooth rolls over ~~the first~~ a convex sector on one side of a tooth of [[the]] an opposite meshed gear.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein a shape of an end sector of the teeth matches ~~that of the~~ a shape of a concave sector defined by juxtaposition of two roots of neighboring teeth.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein an end sector of one tooth rolls between two teeth of [[the]] an opposite meshed gear, while maintaining contact therewith until the one tooth slips away from the two teeth of the opposite meshed gear.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein the teeth in mesh have at all times at least one primary bearing point and one secondary contact point~~, making it possible to ensure elimination of operational backlash and continuity of meshing~~.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): A gear pump according to claim 24, wherein a given active point of one tooth is successively a primary bearing point and a secondary contact point in the course of meshing.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein the teeth of [[both]] two meshed gears are in contact over more than one pitch.

Claim 27 (New): A gear tooth according to claim 14, wherein the gear tooth is symmetric.

Claim 28 (New): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein at least one tooth of the mutually meshed gears is symmetric.

Claim 29 (New): A gear pump according to claim 19, wherein each tooth of the mutually meshed gears is symmetric.